



David E. Olson

August 16, 1944 - November 3, 2013

David E. Olson, 69, of Rostraver Twp., passed away on Sunday, November 3, 2013. A son of the late C. Theodore and Aurora "Ora" C. Rousseau Olson, he was born August 16, 1944 in Monongahela. Dave, originally from Rostraver Twp., lived in both Bridgeville and in Washington, PA before returning in 1994 to move back into his childhood home. Dave studied art at Penn State, graduating in 1966. He earned a Master of Art Education from Penn State in 1968. Dave taught at a number of educational institutions in Western Pennsylvania including the Greater Pittsburgh Guild for the Blind, Washington & Jefferson College, Waynesburg College, California University of Pennsylvania, and Touchstone Center for Crafts. He was member of the Pittsburgh Society of Sculptors, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, and the Watercolor Society. In addition to his artistic talents, Dave was also a gifted musician. He played several different instruments, including the Scottish bagpipes, trombone, guitar, fiddle, flute, and other wind instruments. Of these, Dave was best known for playing the bagpipes. He was a charter member of the Macdonald Bagpipe Band, which was formed in Pittsburgh in 1964. He also played the trombone in the Wind Ensemble at Washington & Jefferson College, Mon Valley Community Band and several VFW bands. Dave will be greatly missed by his large extended family and his many friends in the art and music communities in Western Pennsylvania. He is survived by his son, Alan D. Olson, of Carnegie; a brother, Richard A. Olson of Phoenix, AZ; and a sister, O. Diane Sommerville of Richfield Springs, NY. Friends will be received on Thursday from 7-9 P.M. and on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 P.M. at the Ferguson Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., (724-929-5300), 700 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon. www.FergusonFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com. A Funeral Service will be held in the funeral home on Saturday at 11 A.M., the Rev. Susan Rothenberg officiating. In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Sixth Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, PA., 1688 Murray Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ Dave was the most interesting cousin my late husband, Scott Rankin, had. When we visited him I was mesmerized by him and his many talents. Dave flew out to Oklahoma to play bagpipes at Scott's funeral. His gift of bagpipe music was very special. After the funeral he played his bagpipes at the reflection pool at the site of the Murrah Building bombing. So touching. I will miss you, Dave. Thanks for the opportunity to know you.

Melody Rankin - November 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ I met David a few times at some events around Pittsburgh. David was a kind gentleman, he had a fine sense of humor, and was very talented. I'm glad I got to know who he was. Characters like him don't come along often enough in a lifetime, but they are remembered forever.

Colleen Everett - November 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ David, you were an amazing human being and you will be truly missed.

Joanna Abel - November 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ We were sorry to hear of the passing of David. We both graduated with David from RHS Class of 62. He was gracious to play the bagpipes at a few of our class reunions, most recently the 50th. We send our sincere sympathy and thoughts and prayers to the family. Kenton and Madeline Nescot Colvin

Kenton - November 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ God must have needed a bagpiper in heaven. Dave was a great guy and so talented. I was very sorry to hear that he has passed. My sympathies to his family and friends.

Monica Saporito - November 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ I lived in East Washington Boro for a number of years, and used to love to hear Dave coming up the street on Christmas Eve playing the bagpipes. I would walk out and chat with him for a minute, and he would be on his way. What a great memory this is for me. This Christmas Eve, he will walk the quiet, beautiful, snow covered streets of Heaven and all of our lost loved ones will enjoy his wonderful gift of music.

S Clark - November 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I have several stories about David from forging machine parts on an anvil to waiting for a funeral procession in the freezing cold and trading stories at Flyers Club. I can summarize them all in one sentiment; He was a nice guy. May peace find your family and God rest your soul.

John Barnes - November 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ We have lost another great talent but Heaven has gained one. You will be missed.

William Hess - November 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ you will always live in our hearts and prayers.....a gift has been made in David's name to the Sixth Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, Pa.

jim and mary e Rousseau - November 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ how much we will miss Davey!! he has been a wonderful friend. Sandi & Carl Patty

November 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Glad to have had the time with you on Sunday, Alan.

John McCreight - November 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM